

Appl. No. 10/616,596
Atty. Docket No. 8283D
Amdt. dated April 26, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 6, 2006
Customer No. 27752

REMARKS

Formal Matters

The title of the Specification has been amended to more clearly describe the invention. The cross-reference in the Specification has been amended to reflect that the parent application is now a granted U.S. patent.

No amendments to the claims have been made by way of the instant response. Claims 1-20 remain pending in the instant Application and are presented for the Examiner's review in light of the following comments.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-20 have been rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,576,090. Applicants traverse the instant rejection inasmuch as the Examiner states that the instant claims are not patentably distinct from those of the cited reference. Applicants concur with the Examiner's conclusion that the prior art fails to teach a plurality of suspended portions laterally extending from the plurality basis and forming void spaces between the X,Y plane and the suspended portions. However, Applicants are at a loss to understand how the instant Application can distinguish in this manner over the cited art, yet still be deemed as not patentably distinct over the prior art. However, in order to expedite prosecution of the instant Application and pursuant to M.P.E.P. §1490, Applicants enclose an appropriate Terminal Disclaimer compliant with 35 U.S.C. §253, 37 C.F.R. §1.321, and 36 C.F.R. §3.73. Applicants now believe the above-referenced Terminal Disclaimer renders the non-statutory double patenting rejection as moot. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection to Claims 1-20 herewith.

Conclusion

Based on all the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that each of Applicants' remaining claims is in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration is requested.

This response is timely filed pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.8 and M.P.E.P. §512. If any additional charges are due, the Examiner is authorized to deduct

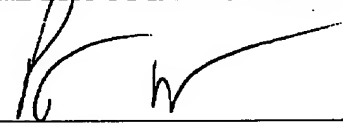
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such charges from Deposit Account No. 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company.

Respectfully submitted,

THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY

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